

IRIS CARDENAS

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EDUCATION

- 2022 (expected)** **Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work**
Rutgers University, School of Social Work
Dissertation: *Formal Help-seeking Among Intimate Partner Violence Survivors: Identifying Characteristics and Variations between Latinas and non-Latinas*
Committee: N. Andrew Peterson (Chair), Judy L. Postmus, Gabriel Robles, Kristina Nikolova
- 2016** **Master of Social Work**
Rutgers University, School of Social Work
Management and Policy – Social Policy Emphasis
- 2010** **Bachelor of Arts, Psychology**
New Jersey City University, College of Arts and Sciences

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intimate partner violence (IPV) among diverse populations, with a focus on Latinx communities; victimization and help-seeking behaviors; health and wellbeing; culturally concordant services; cross-cultural scale adaptation & psychometric properties validation.

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED

1. **Cardenas, I.**, Steiner, J., & Peterson, N.A. (2021). Measurement Invariance of the Brief Sense of Community Scale Across non-Hispanic, Black and Hispanic College Students. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 49(6), 2106-2121. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22640>
2. **Cardenas, I.**, Johnson, L., & Postmus, J. L. (2021 online). Improving Quality of Life Among Latina Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence through Economic Empowerment. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605211013958>
3. Alvarez-Hernandez, L.R., **Cardenas, I.**, & Bloom, A. (2021 online). COVID-19 Pandemic and Intimate Partner Violence: An Analysis of Help-seeking Messages in the Spanish-Speaking Media. 1-12. *Journal of Family Violence*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-021-00263-8>
4. Nikolova, K., Buttner, C., **Cardenas, I.**, Khetarpal, R., Postmus, J. L., & Simmel, C. (2021). Caseworkers' Attitudes about Domestic Violence (DV): Does Personal Experience with DV Matter? *Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership, & Governance*, 45(2), 95-108. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23303131.2020.1869130>
5. **Cardenas, I.** (2020 online). Advancing Intersectionality Approaches in Intimate Partner Violence Research: A Social Justice Approach. *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15313204.2020.1855494>

6. **Cardenas, I.** (2017). Radical Social Work. *Journal of Progressive Human Services*, 28(2), 55-57. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10428232.2017.1292491>

REVISE AND RESUBMIT

Cardenas, I., & Cuesta, L. The Association Between Intimate Partner Violence and Multiple Partner Fertility among Colombian Women. *Family Relations Journal*.

Robles, G., Bosco, S. C., Holsteter, J., **Cardenas, I.,** & Starks, T. J. High Rates of Intimate Partner Violence in a National Sample of Latinx Sexual Minority Men. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

UNDER REVIEW

Nikolova, K., **Cardenas, I.,** Steiner, J., & Khetarpal, R. Women's Help-Seeking in Asia and the Pacific: Factors that Impact Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence. *Sex Roles*.

Saunders, D., Jiwatram- Negrón, T., Nanasi, N., & **Cardenas, I.** Evidence for the Link Between Patriarchy and Intimate Partner Violence: Applications to Women's Asylum Claims. *Violence Against Women*.

O'Connor, J., Nikolova, K., **Cardenas, I.,** & Snyder, S. The Mediating Effect of Traditional Gender Beliefs on the Relationship between Gender Disparities and Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration. *Psychology of Violence*.

IN PREPARATION (analyses completed; write-up phase)

Cardenas, I., Ling, H., & Hoge, G. Testing Measurement Equivalence of the Economic Self-Efficacy in English and Spanish with Intimate Partner Violence Survivors. To be submitted early fall, 2021 to *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Sabina, C., **Cardenas, I.,** Vasquez, D. & Cuevas, C. Longitudinal Associations Between Social Support and Victimization of Latino Youth. To be submitted early fall 2021 to *Journal of Adolescent Health*.

Cardenas, I., Ling, H., Nikolova, K., & Postmus, J. L. Assessing Intimate Partner Violence in Primary Care: Measurement Equivalence of the ABI-R across English and Spanish-speaking Patients. To be submitted fall, 2021 to *Annals of Family Medicine*.

RESEARCH REPORTS

1. Sabina, C., Fleury-Steiner, R., Hogstrom, L., **Cardenas, I.,** & Kafonek, K. (2021). *Meeting them where they are: An evaluation of the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence Community Health Worker Project*. Center for the Study and Prevention of Gender-Based Violence. University of Delaware.
2. Postmus, J.L., Nikolova, K., & **Cardenas, I.** (2020). *Testing and Validating Financial Measures with Intimate Partner Violence Survivors*. Research report prepared for the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

3. **Cardenas, I., & O'Connor, J.** (2018). *Assessing Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance Services (VPVA): Interviews with Clients*. Prepared for the NJ Office of Victim Witness Advocacy at the Department of Law and Public Safety.
4. DiBella, B., Eckert, C., Buttner, C., Cusano, J., **Cardenas, I.**, Postmus, J.L., & Simmel, C. (2017). *Domestic Violence Liaison Program Evaluation*. Final report prepared for The New Jersey Department of Children and Families.
5. **Cardenas, I.** (2017). *Disparities in Access to Prenatal Care: Perpetuation of Poverty and Inequality*. Prepared for the Center on Law, Inequality & Metropolitan Equity, Rutgers University.
6. O'Connor, J., Siddiq, R., Gandhi, K., **Cardenas, I.**, & McMahon, S. (2015). *Assessing the Impact of the Artists Mentoring Against Violence program*. Prepared for the Center for Latino Arts and Culture, Rutgers University.

PRESENTATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED

1. Nikolova, K., Saxon, S., **Cardenas, I.**, & Weiss, A. (2022, March 27-29). *Understanding Unmet Need Among Low-Income Families during COVID-19: A Survey of Social Service Agencies* [Poster presentation]. Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (APPAM). Austin, TX.
2. **Cardenas, I.** & Mathison, L. (2021, November 4-7). *Development and Evaluation of a Spanish for Social Work Online Course* [Paper presentation]. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 67th Annual Program National Meeting. Orlando, FL.
3. Alvarez-Hernandez, L.R., & **Cardenas, I.** (2021, November 4-7). *Leveraging Mass and Social Media for Critical Conversations Among Latinx Communities* [Interactive Workshop]. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 67th Annual Program National Meeting. Orlando, FL.
4. **Cardenas, I.**, Sabina, C., Vasquez, D., & Cuevas, C. (2021, January 19-22). *Longitudinal Associations Between Social Support and Victimization of Latino Youth* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 25th Annual Conference. Virtual Conference.
5. Alvarez-Hernandez, L. R., **Cardenas, I.**, & Bloom, A. (2021, January 19-22). *The Role of Spanish-Speaking Media in Intimate Partner Violence Help-Seeking during the COVID-19 Pandemic* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) 25th Annual Conference. Virtual Conference.
6. Reyes, L., **Cardenas, I.**, & Calvo, R. (2020, November 16-20). *Bridging the Gap: Supporting Latinx PhD Students and Emerging Scholars* [Accepted as Interactive workshop]. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 66th Annual Program National Meeting. Virtual Conference.
7. Mathison, L., & **Cardenas, I.** (2020, February 8). *Giving a Face to Cultural Competency: Telecollaboration in an Online Spanish Course for Social Work* [Paper presentation]. Conference of the Midwest Association for Language Learning Technology (MWALLT). Minneapolis, MN.

8. Nikolova, K., Steiner, J., **Cardenas, I.**, & Khetarpal, R. (2020, January 15-19). *Women's Help-Seeking in Asia and the Pacific: Factors That Impact Survivors of IPV* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) 24th Annual Conference. Washington, DC.
9. **Cardenas, I.**, Johnson, L., & Postmus, J. L. (2020, January 15-19). *Improving Quality of Life Among Latinas Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence through Financial Empowerment* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) 24th Annual Conference. Washington, DC.
10. **Cardenas, I.**, Steiner, J., & Peterson, N. A. (2020, January 15-19). *Testing Measurement Invariance of a Brief Sense of Community Scale Among Black, Non-Hispanic and Hispanic Youth: Identifying Differences in Item Intercepts and Latent Factor Means* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) 24th Annual Conference. Washington, DC.
11. Steiner, J., **Cardenas, I.**, Nikolova, K., & Khetarpa, R. (2019, October 24-27). *Incubations for Knowledge Mobilization: Connecting Research and Practice for GBV and Refugees* [Interactive workshop] Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) 65th Annual Program National Meeting. Denver, CO.
12. **Cardenas, I.** (2019, October 25-26). *Towards Restorative Social Work Practice: Deconstructing Assumptions of Race and Promoting Equity* [Poster presentation] Diversity Challenge of The Institute for The Study and Promotion of Race and Culture (ISPRC) 19th Annual Meeting. Boston College. Chestnut Hill, MA.
13. **Cardenas, I.**, & Barreto Campoverde, G. (2019, January 16-20). *The Effect of Awareness of Campus Resources Among College Students: Unraveling Students' Perceived University Response to Incidents of Sexual Violence* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) 23rd Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.
14. Nikolova, K., Buttner, C., **Cardenas, I.**, Khetarpal, R., Simmel, C., & Postmus, J. (2019, January 16-20). *Child Protection Workers' Attitudes about Domestic Violence: The Impact of Education and Personal Experience* [Paper presentation]. Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) 23rd Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.
15. Nikolova, K., Steiner, J., **Cardenas, I.**, & Johnson, L. (2018, July 15-17). *Does Stigma of Residing with the Abuser Impact Receipt of Waivers Among a Sample of IPV Survivors?* [Paper presentation]. International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference. Portsmouth, NH.
16. **Cardenas, I.** (2018, October, 26-27). *Advancing Interprofessional Education: Towards a Comprehensive Approach of Cultural Competence Using an Intersectionality Lens* [Poster presentation]. Interprofessional Care for the 21st Century Conference, Jefferson Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education at the Thomas Jefferson University. Philadelphia, PA.

INVITED

1. **Cardenas, I.** & Steiner, J. (2021, August 17). *Measuring Sense of Community* [Audio podcast interview with Laskey, L. (Host)]. In Resource on the Go. National Sexual Violence Resource Center. <https://www.nsvrc.org/resource/how-measure-sense-community>
2. **Cardenas, I.** (2019, April 12). *Understanding the Experiences of Latinas Seeking Mental Health Treatment*. Latino Studies Research Initiative Symposium at Rutgers University.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2021-2022	The National Institute of Justice Research Assistantship Program, offered to highly qualified doctoral students (\$72,668)
2021	Emerging Scholar IIDEA Research Award, SSW, Rutgers University, awarded to a student who has made outstanding and innovative contributions to IIDEA (Inclusion, Intersectionality, Diversity, Equity, and Advancement) research initiatives (\$2,000)
2021	Dissertation Support Funds Award, School of Social Work, Rutgers University (\$571)
2020	Center on Latin American Studies Small Grant Award, Rutgers University (\$375)
2019	Fellow at the Summer Social Work Graduate Mentoring Workshop on African American and Latinx Research, University of Michigan (\$1,000)
2019	Off-Campus Dissertation Development Award, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (\$2,000)
2019	Underrepresented Student Workshop Fellowship, The Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology (SMEP) (\$1,000)
2017-2022	Conference travel support, School of Graduate Studies, Rutgers University (\$1,000 per annum, except AY 2020-2021)
2017-2018	Graduate Student Fellowship, Latino Studies Research Initiative, Rutgers University (\$1,500)
2016	Winner of the Journal of Progressive Human Services (JPHS) nationwide essay contest at the MSW level with “ <i>Radical Social Work</i> ”, School of Social Work, University of New England (\$1,000)
2015-2016	Equity and Opportunity Studies Fellowship, Center on Law, Inequity, and Metropolitan Equity (CLIME), School of Law-Newark, Rutgers University (\$1,500)

HONORS

2016	Dean’s Recognition Award to an Outstanding Student in Management and Policy, School of Social Work, Rutgers University
2016	Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society, Rutgers University
2010	Sigma Alpha Pi Leadership Honor Society, New Jersey City University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2020	Methods of Social Work Research II (remote) Instructor Rutgers University School of Social Work Master of Social Work Program
Fall 2019	Introduction to Global Public Health
Fall 2020	Guest Lecturer: Gender Based Violence: A Global Epidemic Rutgers University School of Public Health Master of Public Health

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Sept 2021-present **National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice**
Supervisors: Dr. Angela M. Moore and Christine Crossland
- Research Assistant (Contractor).** Working on Violence Against Women portfolio.
- Jun 2021-present **School of Social Work, Wayne State University, virtual**
TANF Program and Policy Implementation in Michigan: Building State Capacity for Program Assessment to Promote Family Self-Sufficiency
PI: Dr. Kristina Nikolova
- Research Assistant.** Leads virtual focus groups. Conducts qualitative data analysis. Oversees data collection of a statewide survey. Mentors a high school level intern.
- Sept 2015-Jun 2021 **Center on Violence Against Women and Children at Rutgers University, NJ**
- Testing and Validating Financial Measures with Intimate Partner Violence Survivors** funded by the National Institute of Justice (# 2017-VA-CX-0032)
PI(s): Drs. Judy L. Postmus & Kristina Nikolova
- Project Coordinator** (Jun 2019-June 2021). Managed final efforts of data collection with seven agencies across NJ, NY, and Puerto Rico. Trained interviewers in trauma-sensitive and culturally competent interviewing. Conducted interview surveys in English and Spanish. Oversaw data management process and IRB amendments and renewals. Led data analytical process and conducted factor analyses using SPSS and AMOS. Prepared reports for partnering agencies and progress and final report for funding entity. Presented findings to partnering agencies in English and Spanish. Supervised several master level students and one Ph.D. candidate.
- Graduate Research Assistant** (Jan 2018-May 2019). Conducted comprehensive literature review for scale development. Formed part of an expert committee to review the cross-cultural adaptation of financial and abuse scales. Led the Spanish translation and Latinx cultural adaptation of study materials. Conducted secondary data factor analysis, using SPSS.
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Evaluation** funded by the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime & the NJ Attorney General's Office.
PI: Dr. Sarah McMahon
- Graduate Research Assistant** (Sept 2017-May 2018). Coordinated the evaluation of one of Rutgers University's satellite campus to enhance services to student victims of interpersonal violence. Developed several pre and posttests to evaluate educational programs and an interview guide to use during semi-structured interviews with student survivors of violence. Led the qualitative analysis of interviews using NVivo. Conducted quantitative analysis using SPSS and Stata.

Prepared progress reports for internal institutional use and co-authored a findings report. Supervised two MSW students.

Domestic Violence Liaison Program Evaluation funded by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

PI: Dr. Judy L. Postmus

Research Assistant (Jul 2016-Aug 2017). Assisted in the planning and implementation of a large survey to assess the effectiveness of a state-wide program. Developed and implemented outreach plan in the Latinx community. Conducted over the phone screenings and face-to-face interviews in English and Spanish. Analyzed data using SPSS. Assisted in the preparation of IRB documents and revised study materials to ensure Latinx cultural sensitivity. Co-authored report to funder and info-graphic.

Intern (Sept 2015-Jun 2016). Completed comprehensive literature reviews, conducted data analyses of focus groups using NVivo and posttests using SPSS. Assisted in report writing for various projects.

Nov 2020-Feb 2021

Department of Women and Gender Study at University of Delaware, virtual Domestic Violence Community Health Workers Project Evaluation Study

PI: Dr. Chiara Sabina

Consultant. Conducted virtual semi-structured interviews with English and Spanish-speaking intimate partner violence survivors. Analyzed qualitative data and co-authored report to funder.

Jan 2020-Aug 2020

Graduate Research Internship, Rutgers University, NJ

Independent Study- secondary data analysis

Advisor: Dr. Laura Cuesta

Investigator. Led research project, including problem formulation, development and implementation of the methodological approach using Stata, and manuscript writing and submission. Mastered the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS-Colombia), a nationally representative, population-based survey.

Jul 2019-Mar 2020

Ryan White Grant, Fox Caring Consultants, NJ

Bilingual Research Assistant. Conducted community health needs assessments using face-to-face structured interviews in English and Spanish. Reviewed and revised cross-cultural adaptation of study materials to use with the Latinx population.

Apr 2018- Nov 2019

Graduate Research Study, Rutgers University, NJ

Independent Study – primary data collection

Advisor: Dr. Edward Alessi

Principal Investigator. Designed and led a qualitative exploratory study to examine the help-seeking behaviors among Latinas with mental health needs in

NJ. Conducted data collection in Latinx communities, data analysis using NVivo, and presented results.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

- Jul 2017-Jan 2020 **Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Rutgers University, NJ**
Spanish for Social Work Online Courses
Program Evaluator (Sept 2019-Jan 2020). Co-evaluated the (1) development of students' Spanish proficiency, content knowledge, and cultural competency related to social work practice with the Latinx population and (2) use of technology for world language instruction.
- Social Work Consultant*** (Jul 2017-Jun 2019). Assisted in the curriculum development of Spanish for Social Work online courses. Reviewed and revised lesson content for cultural competency and effective social work practice.
- Nov 2016-Oct 2017 **Centro Comunitario CEUS, NJ**
Entre Nosotras Women's Group
Group Coordinator (Volunteer). Directed a Latina women's group, provided wellness interactive workshops, and engaged in community outreach.
- Apr 2012-Mar 2016 **Comprehensive Care Center & Family Health Center at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, NJ**
Case Manager. Oversaw the HIV Home Care program funded by the Ryan White Care Act. Managed budget, billing, and program audit. Conducted client intake and ongoing assessments. Conducted psychosocial assessment and linked patients to services. Monitored patients' care plan and ensured quality of care. Provided crisis intervention.
- Apr 2015-Aug 2015 **A Sun Star, NJ**
Behavioral Assistant. Provided in-home therapeutic services to children and adolescents. Worked closely with lead therapist to ensure effectiveness of intervention.
- Sept 2014-Apr 2015 **YMCA, Evening Reporting Center, NJ**
Social Work Intern. Worked with court-mandated, at risk-youth to reduce the probability for recidivism. Provided group sessions, workshops, and designed intervention plans.
- Mar 2010-Mar 2012 **Los Niños Services, Early Intervention Program, NY**
Case Coordinator. Developed, secured, and monitored evaluation process and service plan to address developmental delays for children.

SERVICE

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- July 2021 - present Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*
May 2021 - present Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Family Relations*
Sept. 2020 - present Ph.D. Student Representative, Inclusion, Intersectionality, Diversity, Equity, and Advancement Committee, School of Social Work, Rutgers
Sept. 2018 - present Ad Hoc Reviewer, *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*

- Mar. 2019 - Jun. 2020 Member, Intimate Partner Violence Asylum Working Group, National Collaboration
- Sept. 2018-May 2019 Member, Interdisciplinary Gender Based Violence Working Group in Global Contexts
- Sept. 2018-May 2019 Peer Mentor, PhD program, School of Social Work, Rutgers

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2019 - 2020 Teaching with Technology Certificate, TA Project, Rutgers University
- Jun 2019 Latent Class/Cluster Analysis and Mixture Modeling, Curran-Bauer Analytics, Chapel Hill, NC

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Aug 2017 New Jersey State Board Certified Licensed Social Worker
- May 2017 Violence Against Women and Children Certificate, School of Social Work, Rutgers University
- May 2017 Human Services Management Certificate, Network of Social Work Management-Rutgers University

SPECIALIZED SKILLS

- Software: Stata, SPSS/AMOS, Mplus, NVivo
- Native proficiency in Spanish (oral and written communication)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Jun. 2019-present Association of Latina/Latino Social Work Educators (ALLSWE)
- Apr. 2019-present Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
- Jan. 2019-present Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)